

The Groundplane

SBARA—The South Bay Amateur Radio Association

KU6S Newsletter

October, 2012
Volume 13, Issue 10



ARRL Member
Club Since 1974



President's Message

Are you planning on joining the California QSO Party (CQP)? Al WT6K, Don N6DA and I will be on a DXpedition to Orland, CA, activating Glenn County. We're currently preparing for the trip, I've packed all my radios and cables, and I'm really looking forward to it.

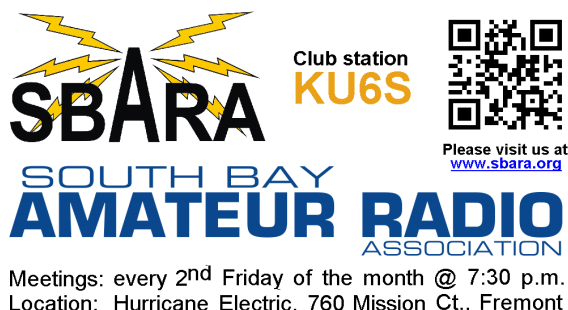
We'll be active in SSB and CW on multiple bands using two K3 radios. Al and I even networked our computers to get synchronized N1MM logs – it works great! We might be doing this for next year's fieldday, too, it makes life so much easier.

The contest exchange is similar to fieldday, we're sending the number of the current QSO and the short name of the county (in our case it will be "GLEN"), and we'll receive either the county or the state from the other station. If you have time this weekend, come look for us. Spare some time and give other contesters your exchange.

Unfortunately this means I can't go on the transmitter hunt this month. Sometimes there's too much going on at the same time...

There is one more significant event this month, the Pacificon. It will be the weekend after our monthly meeting (actually it starts already on that same Friday). I'll be there on Saturday to represent Parachute Mobile, and I might go again on Sunday as time permits. We will see Rita and Dan for that occasion, they're traveling down from Medford, OR. Looking forward to seeing you again, KI6SSQ and N6WN!

Our new business cards have arrived. I'll bring them to the meeting.
Here it is:



The new card was designed using the artwork for the new banner we received in April this year.

See you at the membership meeting,
73, Bernhard AE6YN

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Special Points of Interest

Train and Communications —
October Meeting

5 Cube Stats Deployed

SBARA Voice and CW Nets

October is Costume Time!!

Happy Halloween Boooooo.....



5 New Cube SATs Deployed on Octo- ber 4th , 2012

Speaker for the October SBARA membership meeting

Have you ever wondered how communication between trains and control stations works? During our October membership meeting, we will have Jason Wright visiting us. He will speak about Railway Communications and Modernization.

See you at the meeting,
Bernhard AEGYN

Attention Kit Builders—The ARRL Wants to Hear From You!!

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and *it works!*" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple



Five research CubeSats – all with Amateur Radio communication systems – were successfully deployed from the International Space Station beginning around 1430 UTC today. The satellites were launched from the Kibo station module using a specially equipped robotic arm.

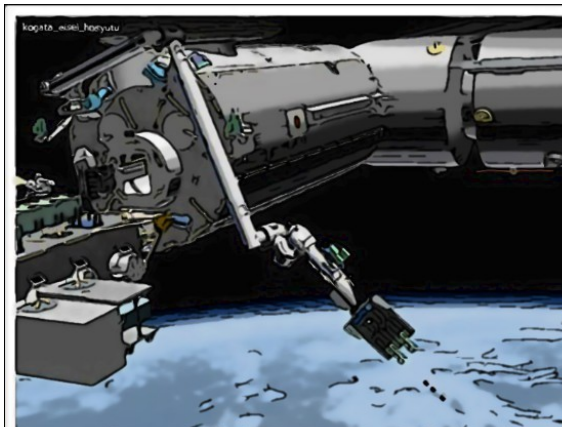
TechEdSat, a collaboration among NASA's Ames Research Center; San Jose State University; the Swedish National Space Board (SNSB) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), will be sending AX.25 packet telemetry at 437.465 MHz. The TechEdSat team is asking for assistance from amateurs in decoding and relaying data. Follow the mission on their [Twitter page](#). More information about decoding and submitting packet data is available [here](#).

FITSAT-1, designed and built at the Fukuoka Institute of Technology, Japan, will test the feasibility of high-speed microwave data downlinks in low Earth orbit. It will transmit telemetry on 437.445 MHz and 5.84 GHz. They welcome signal reports from amateurs at their [website](#).

[WE WISH](#), from the Meisei Electric Company Radio Club, Japan, will send CW telemetry and occasional SSTV images at 437.505 MHz.

[RAIKO](#), designed and built by students at Wakayama University, Japan, will transmit high-speed data at 2.2 and 13 GHz.

F-1, built by students at FPT University in Hanoi, Vietnam will send telemetry at 145.980 and 437.485 MHz using 1200-baud packet and CW. Amateurs are asked to monitor and submit reports. More information is available [here](#).



An artist rendering of the CubeSat deployment from the Kibo module on the International Space Station.

Haunted Ham Radio

When I was about 12 or 13, I was doing some "treasure hunting," also known as thrift store/garage sale shopping. I was looking for some old jazz records to add to my collection.

As I was rummaging through various bins and shelves, I found an awesome ham radio. It wasn't in the greatest condition and the dial knob was missing, but I had to have it. I thought it would be cool to display it among my record collection. So, I bought it and took it home.

Naturally, the first thing I did when I got home was plug it into the wall to see if it even worked. I was surprised to see that the radio worked fairly well. It picked up a few AM radio stations. Of course it could *only* pick up AM radio stations as FM was non-existent at the time in which it was made.

That same night, as I was going to sleep, the radio turned on by itself. It was still plugged into the wall, so I didn't get freaked out about it. Seeing as how it was so old there was bound to be something faulty responsible for its turning on. I got out of bed and walked over to the dresser and turned it off. I crawled back into bed and went to sleep.

At about 3 in the morning I was awakened by what sounded like a garbled conversation. As I came to, I saw that once again the ham radio had turned itself on. But this time, the sound seemed different. In between the spurts of silence and static I could hear breathing. I yanked the cord out of the wall and went back to bed. I would check it out in the morning to try and figure out if the power switch was faulty.

The next day, sometime in the early evening, I plugged the radio into the wall and began tinkering with it. Then, the most terrifying thing happened. The static faded completely. The silence came back on as did the sound of breathing. Suddenly, the creepy voice of a man came on and said, "Hello, little girl."

I froze in fear. The voice came back on and said asked if I was "ready." Hell no, I wasn't ready. Ready for what? I didn't want to know. I pulled the plug out of the wall and threw that possessed radio into one of the dumpsters in my apartment complex.

Thankfully, that was my first and only encounter with the paranormal, but even today it sends chills down my spine just thinking about it.

Fremont "T" Hunt



Transmitter hunting (also known as T-hunting, fox hunting, bunny hunting, and bunny chasing), is an activity wherein participants use [radio direction finding](#) techniques to locate one or more radio [transmitters](#) hidden within a designated search area. This activity is most popular among [amateur radio](#) enthusiasts, and one organized sport variation is known as [amateur radio direction finding](#). organized sport variation is known as [amateur radio direction finding](#).



Exam sessions are conducted by SBARA VE volunteers working under the direction of the FCC. There is a charge for taking the exam. The exam fee is set by the Volunteer Exam Coordinator. SBARA's Fee is \$15.00

SBARA VE Testing Schedule

Exams will be administered at Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont. Contact: Greg Miller, wy6p at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee, bring a photo ID. Walk-ins allowed.

Tri-City VE Session Dates 2012

Tue Oct 9, 2012, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Sat Nov 10, 2012, 9:00 am - 11:30 am
Tue Dec 11, 2012, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Tri-City VE Session Dates 2013

Sat Jan 12, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Feb 12, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Sat Mar 9, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Apr 9, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Sat May 11, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Jun 11, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Sat Jul 13, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Aug 13, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Sat Sep 14, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Oct 8, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Sat Nov 9, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Tue Dec 10, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm



Are you looking for your favorite Repeater? Here is information you can use!

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5

WA6PWW—223.900—500Khz, PL 107.2

WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz, PL107.2

K6AIR—146.940—600Khz, PL 123.0

K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0

ARES Net Meeting—Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5



Monday SBARA Net

The SBARA net is taking place....

Every Monday night at 7:30 pm on the WA6PWW (currently N6IMS) repeater, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, PL (if enabled) 103.5 Hz.

Topics are club related things, projects you're working on and so on. It's a chat net.

We need net control operators. If you'd like to be net control, let us know during the next net.

—... —

Bernhard AE6YN

SBARA Weekly Nets—Voice and CW Action!!

The Slow CW Net is Taking Place....

Every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm, Thursday on 144.230 MHz, Sunday on 7.057MHz +/- 3 kHz

You need an “allmode” (i.e. not just an FM) radio in order to follow.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:

“SF Bay CW Enthusiasts” <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

—... —

Bernhard AE6YN

Local nets are those which cover small areas such as a community, city, county or metropolitan area, not a complete ARRL section SBARA operates both a CW Slow-Speed Net and a Single-Sideband Net each week for users to check into!



SBARA - Groundplane

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's news-letter. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio at Comcast dot net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.



Upcoming SBARA Events

October Action Packed Meeting

October 12th, 2012 at 7:30pm Hurricane Electric, Fremont

Amateur License Exams

ARRL VEC– October 13th @ 11:30 am at Hurricane Electric – 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont. Contact: Bernhard, ae6yn at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee.

Additional information is described at Website, www.sbara.org

Select License Exams from the Navigation URL.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

P.O. Box 8401

Fremont, Ca.

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